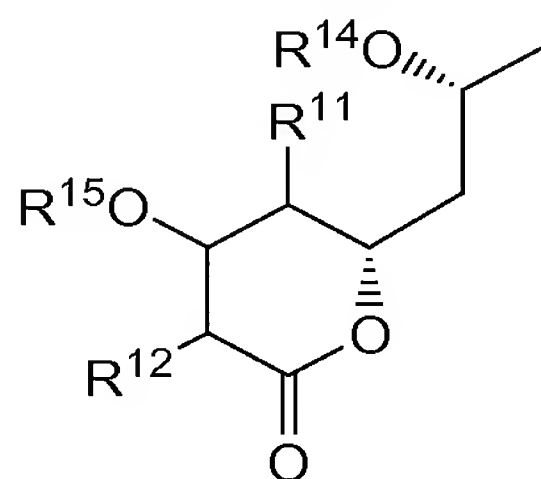


REMARKS

After entry of the present amendment, claims 1, 3-21, 24-83 will be pending. Claims 2, 22, and 23 have been canceled. Claims 29-83 have been withdrawn. Claims 1, 3-5, 10, 12, and 26 have been amended to even more particularly describe the recited invention. The Applicants expressly reserve the right to file the canceled subject matter in one or more continuing or divisional applications. No new matter has been added.

The claims have been amended to recite that J is

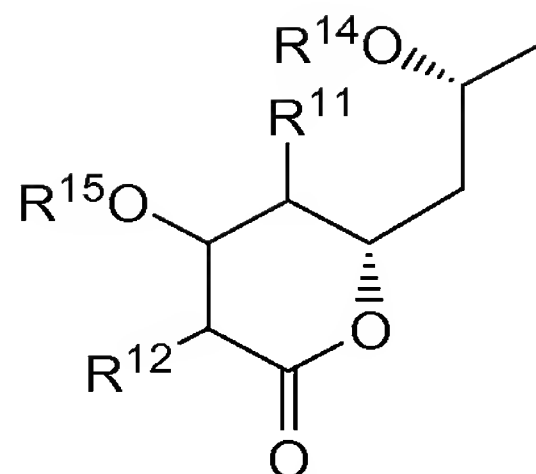


The claims have also been amended to recite that R⁶, R⁷, and R⁸ are independently C₁-C₁₀ alkyl; R¹⁰ is hydrogen; and X¹ and X² are independently halogen. The limitations of claim 2 have been incorporated into claim 1, specifically, that the process is conducted in the presence of a catalytically effective amount of a cross-coupling metal catalyst. Claim 26 has been amended to recite that the deprotected compound is contacted with Cl₃CCONCO and the resultant imide hydrolyzed.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112

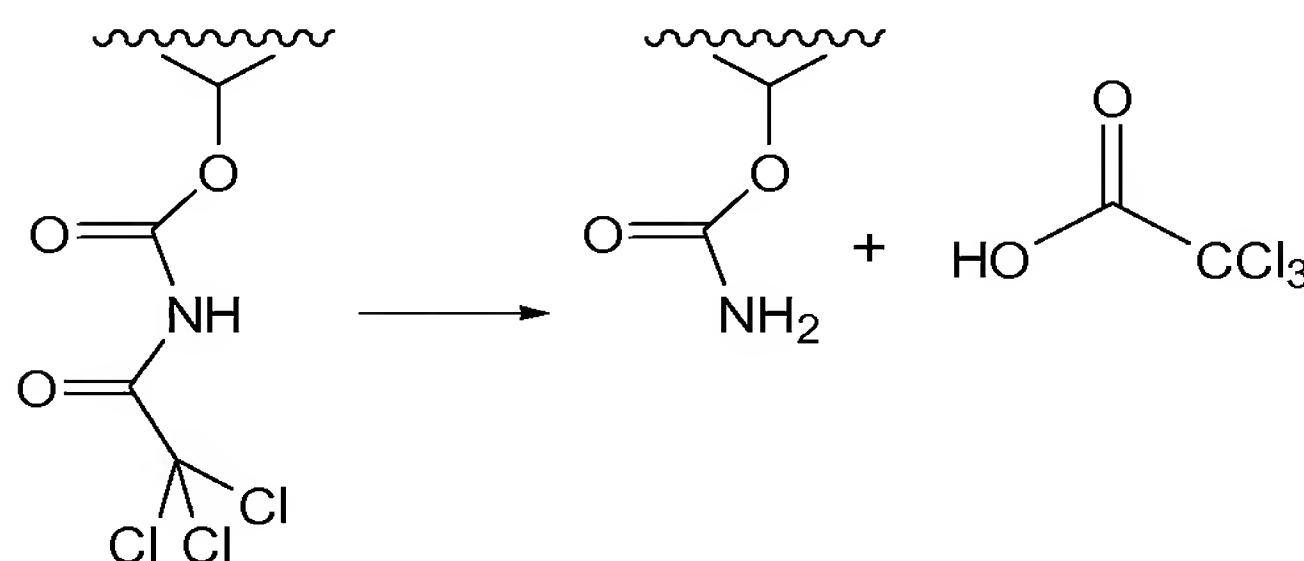
Claims 1, 3-21, and 24-27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as allegedly nonenabling. More particularly, the Office alleges that the specification is limited in the description of how to make compounds of formula xx. The Office further alleges that the specification does not provide working examples to enable one skilled in the art to make compounds of formula xx. The Applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection.

Pages 33-34 of the specification set forth specification detail regarding the preparation of a compound of formula xx. Specific reagents, temperatures, and yields are provided. The Applicants assert that this information, coupled with the knowledge of one skilled in the art, would allow the skilled person to prepare the claimed compounds of formula xx, wherein J is



without undue experimentation. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

The Office further alleges that the characterization of Al_2O_3 as a hydrolysis agent is improper. The Applicants disagree. One skilled in the art would readily recognize that the relevant transformation is



Those skilled in the art would readily understand that this transformation is a hydrolysis. *See, e.g.,* Smith, et al., “Total Synthesis of (-)-Discodermolide” *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1995**, *117*, 12011-12012 (“carbamate introduction via the Kocovsky protocol (Cl_3CCONCO ; imide hydrolysis)”); Moreover, while the Office may dispute that Al_2O_3 assists in this transformation, the Applicants note that this transformation using Al_2O_3 is known in the art as the Kocovsky protocol. *See* Kocovsky, P. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1986**, *27*, 5521.

The Applicants assert that the foregoing constitutes a full and complete response to the June 26, 2009 Office Action and that claims 1, 3-21, and 24-28 are in condition for allowance. An early notice to that effect is, therefore, earnestly solicited.

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PATENT

Date: September 14, 2009

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